Other items of interest.

CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER
Cleveland, Ohio
December 18, 1959

Study Links Smoking, Low Masculinity

WASHINGTON (AP)—Tobacco smoking, especially heavy smoking, may be a mark of weak masculinity, a study of a group of Harvard alumni indicates.

The findings were reported yesterday by a Harvard anthropologist who said that though admittedly tentative they might eventually have a bearing on the question of the association of smoking with lung cancer and coronary heart disease.

In a report in the technical journal Science, Dr. Carl C. Seltzer said a special anthropological study under way for more than 15 years had indicated:

That there is a significant association between the strength of something called the "masculine component"—a body-build trait which also has characteristic personality and behavioral components — and the smoking habits of male subjects.

"More specifically," he said, "Weakness of the masculine component is significantly more frequent in smokers than in nonsmokers and significantly more frequent in heavier smokers than in nonsmokers and moderate smokers combined."

Component Defined

Seltzer defined this masculine component as "the element of masculinity in the individual as indicated by his external morphological (bodily) features."

He indicated that a man with an abundance of the masculine component tends to be one with an athletic, he-man build. Vice versa, the chap whose build tends to be somewhat feminine is rated low in masculine component.

The scientist said the study covered 252 Harvard men. They were studied initially while they were sophomores during the period 1938-1942, and have since been followed annually by questionnaires. Smoking habits constituted only one of a number of elements in the research.

3 Groups Studied

Of the study group, 24.3% were found to be nonsmokers; 38% moderate smokers and the rest heavier smokers.

Seltzer, of Harvard's Peabody Museum, indicated that the findings, if confirmed, might have a bearing on the smoking-and-disease controversy for this reason:

It might be possible to set up a study to determine whether smokers and nonsmokers differ in their susceptibility to lung cancer and heart disease "because of their biological nature, apart from the element of smoking itself."

Such a study, he indicated, might then throw new light on whether smoking, of itself, contributes materially to an increase in the incidence of such diseases.

THE HERALD-NEWS
Fontana, California
September 26, 1959

Pack or More Each Day

English Scientists Claim Smoking May Be Health Aid

BIRMINGHAM, England (UPI) — A team of Birmingham University scientists today reported smoking — especially a pack or more a day—may help health.

The scientists, led by Dr. Thomas McKeown, said research indicated cigarette smoking keeps blood pressure down. They said a survey of 1,000 men over 60 years of age revealed that lifelong non-smokers had the highest blood pressures.

McKeown and his fellow scientists reported chain smokers had the lowest blood pressures among the men interviewed. These were men smoking 20 or more cigarettes a day.

Pipe smokers generally registered blood pressures between the non-smokers and the chain smokers.

McKeown's report said consumption of alcoholic beverages tended to raise blood pressure. However he said drinking does not raise blood pressure to the extent that smoking lowers it.

The doctors said the highest blood pressures of all came from those men who didn't smoke but did drink.

WHITE PLAINS
REPUBLICAN-DISPATCH
White Plains, New York
October 30, 1959

Heart Ailments Sign of Success, Says Professor

ALBANY (AP) — Heart ailments are a sign of civilization and success, a medical school professor says.

And heart disease, said Dr. Paul Formel, is much less common among several alcoholics than nonalcoholics.

Formel, a professor at Albany Medical College, said that reasonable use of alcohol was a good thing.

He also said the statistical correlation between smoking and lung cancer did not mean there was a "cause-and-effect relationship."

"I could draw a similar statistical correlation between the wearing of shoes and lung cancer," he said in a talk before a hospital credit forum.

Formel had this advice for dad: don't play football with Son just to be a good dad.

Violent exercise is for adolescents, he said.

Source: https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/kncm0000